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NOTICE OF TENTATIVE DECISION T

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START 09/13/95 END 09/13/95

Joanne Mooney



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NOTICE OF TENTATIVE DECISION TO APPROVE
NO. M/037/084
BEFORE THE DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, STATE OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF TENTATIVE DECISION TO APPROVE THE MINING
AND RECLAMATION PLAN COTTER CORPORATION'S PAPOOSE
MINE, SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

THE STATE OF UTAH TO ALL OPERATORS, TAKERS OF PRODUCTION,
MINERAL AND ROYALTY OWNERS, AND PARTICULARLY ALL
PERSONS INTERESTED IN SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 29 1/2 SOUTH,
RANGE 24 EAST, SLBM, SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

Notice is hereby given by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
of its tentative decision to approve Cotter Corporation's
Mining and Reclamation Plan for the Papoose Mine, limestone
mining activities will effect the following area: 20 acres located
in NE/4 NW/4; NW/4 NW/4; SE/4 NW/4; SW/4 NW/4 and NE/4
SW/4 Section 36, Township 29 1/2 South, Range 24 East, SLBM, San
Juan County, Utah.

Cotter Corporation has submitted a permit application to
expand their existing small mining operation to include the
following changes:

The shallow open pit will increase in length to the south-
east. The pit and associated mining disturbance will
encompass approximately 20 acres over a ten-year
period. Mining methods will remain the same as for the
current small mining operation.

The operator will employ the following mining and reclama-
tion techniques on approximately 20 acres of State School Trust
land.

During Operations: Trees and brush will be stripped, winrowed,
or piled using a bulldozer. Salvageable soil will be stripped and
stockpiled. The limestone deposit will be drilled and blasted
approximately once a month. All access ways to the site will be
closed by barricades and/or guarded during blasting. Max-
imum vertical highwall height will be approximately 20 feet. Run
of mine rock will be mucked and trammed by a loader to a
portable jaw crusher. The limestone will be crushed and
screened to a minus 40 inch to plus 1/2 inch size, then stockpiled
prior to truck shipment. Water sprays will be used as necessary
to minimize dust emissions from the crusher. Berms have been
constructed around the stockpile area to control erosion. The
crushing and stockpile areas will periodically be moved to the
southeast as the pit advances in that direction. Concurrent reclama-
tion will be performed as mine development progresses to
the point where it is practical.

Following Operations: Prior to pit abandonment, the highwall
will be cut or backfilled with coarse reject material to a slope of
less than 45°. Stockpiled topsoil will be spread to a 12 inch
depth forming small islands which will then be scarified using
bulldozers and front-end loaders. The seedbed will be harrowed
to a 6 inch depth. Subsequent broadcast seeding will be
be lightly scarified or raked. A few of the original trees will
be scattered across any reclaimed areas. During the third year of
operations, concurrent reclamation should begin on previously
mined areas. Any buildings and related mining equipment will
be removed from the site. Any remaining reject materials result-
ing from sizing operations will be disposed of in the pit or used
to contour the pit walls to a 45° configuration before application
of topsoil. Cotter will replace the salvaged topsoil in "islands" at
a minimum depth of 12 inches rather than spread the topsoil in
a thin veneer over the entire disturbed area.

The person representing the company is Mr. Jon Showalter,
Phone (970) 864-7347. Cotter Corporation is fulfilling obligations
under the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act of 1975, Utah
Code Ann. ss 40-8-18.

Any persons or agency aggrieved by this tentative decision
to issue approval is hereby requested to submit written protest
within thirty (30) days of the date of publication to Lowell Brax-
ton, Associate Director of Mining, Division of Oil and Mining, 355
West North Temple, 3 Triad Center, Suite 350, Salt Lake City, Utah
84180-1203, setting forth factual reasons for the complaint. If no
responsive written protests are received by the Division within 30
days after the last date of publication, the tentative decision of
the Division will be final.

DATED this 4th day of September, 1995.

STATE OF UTAH
BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING
/s/ James W. Carter, Director

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